

1 SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 60

2 **48TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2007**

3 INTRODUCED BY

4 Cisco McSorley

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10 A JOINT MEMORIAL

11 URGING THE STATE TO SUPPORT RESEARCH ON ADVANCED PARTICLE BEAM
12 CANCER THERAPY, A PROMISING CLINICAL APPLICATION THAT SHOULD BE
13 AVAILABLE TO ALL CANCER PATIENTS.

14
15 WHEREAS, cancer is a devastating disease that has enormous
16 consequences for those affected and their families; and

17 WHEREAS, in the last six decades, proton beam therapy has
18 been perfected for clinical use and used with high success to
19 treat many types of tumors; and

20 WHEREAS, continuing research has shown that heavier
21 particles, such as carbon ions, when used in cancer therapy,
22 can have a higher biological effectiveness than proton beam
23 therapy; and

24 WHEREAS, antiproton particle beams are anticipated to have
25 an even better efficiency in destroying tumors without harming

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1 surrounding tissue; and

2 WHEREAS, research using antiproton particle beams has just
3 begun in Europe with promising results; and

4 WHEREAS, New Mexico is an ideal location for advanced
5 particle beam cancer therapy research because it is the home of
6 Los Alamos national laboratory, Sandia national laboratories
7 and the university of New Mexico medical school; and

8 WHEREAS, Michael Holzscheiter, a renowned physicist and
9 one of the world's foremost experts on advanced particle beam
10 cancer therapy, is now living in New Mexico while conducting
11 his ongoing research locally and at CERN, a large particle
12 physics laboratory near Geneva, Switzerland;

13 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
14 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the interim legislative health and
15 human services committee and the legislative finance committee
16 be requested to schedule a presentation and report by physicist
17 Michael Holzscheiter by September 2007 to learn more about the
18 medical application of advanced particle beam cancer therapy
19 and to identify new sources of funding to support ongoing
20 research in New Mexico; and

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
22 transmitted to the department of health, the human services
23 department, the legislative finance committee, the New Mexico
24 legislative council and the board of regents of the university
25 of New Mexico.

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